





# Today's Advertisements.

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.  
The Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA,"  
Captain Douglas, will be despatched for the  
above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 12th instant,  
at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th August, 1899. [1022a]

## CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND  
PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

The Company's Steamship

"CHANGSHA,"  
Captain Moore, will be despatched on  
SATURDAY, the 12th instant, at Noon.

The attention of Passengers is directed to  
the Superior Accommodation offered by this  
Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated  
forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating  
Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh  
Provisions during the entire voyage.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the  
Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.  
M.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Com-  
pany to and from AUSTRALIA are available for  
return by the Steamers of the EASTERN AND  
AUSTRALIAN S.S. Co. and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 10th August, 1899. [1023a]

## CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

The Company's Steamship

"CHANGSHA,"  
Captain Moore, will be despatched as above  
on SATURDAY, the 12th instant, at Noon.

The attention of Passengers is directed to  
the Superior Accommodation offered by this  
Steamer. First Class Saloon is situated forward  
of the Engines.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the  
Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.  
For Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 10th August, 1899. [1005a]

## OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM- SHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship  
"COPTIC."

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees  
of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their  
Bills of Lading for Countersignature, and to  
take immediate delivery of their Goods from  
alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel  
will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk  
and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 10th August, 1899. [1005a]

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to  
subscriptions, advertisements, etc., be addressed to the  
Manager, "The Hongkong Telegraph," and not to the Editor.  
Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor,"  
and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accom-  
panied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily  
for publication; but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the "Hongkong Telegraph" will always  
be open for the free discussion of all questions affecting  
public interests, it must be distinctly understood  
that the Editor reserves the right to use any word which  
may be held responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements are requested to forward all notices intended  
for insertion in this paper, to the Editor, not later than Three o'clock  
on the day preceding publication of the paper.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered  
for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

The "Hongkong Telegraph" has the largest circulation of  
any English newspaper published in the Far East, and it  
therefore the best medium for Advertisers. Terms can be  
learned on application.

## Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,  
LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1847.

## BRANDIES.

A.—Hennessy's Old Pale, Red  
Capsule - - - - - \$18

B.—Superior Very Old Cognac  
Red Capsule - - - - - \$21

C.—Very Old Liqueur Cognac - - - - - \$24

V.O.—D.—Hennessy's Finest  
Very Old Liqueur Cog-  
nac, 1872 Vintage, Red  
Capsule - - - - - \$36

V.V.O.—E.—Finest Very Old  
Liqueur Cognac, 1862  
Vintage - - - - - \$48

All these Brandy are guaranteed  
to be pure COGNAC, the differences in  
price being merely a question of age  
and vintage.

Sample bottles and smaller quanti-  
ties will be supplied at proportionate  
wholesale rates.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited.

## BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 15th July, Countess  
BUTLER, of a son.

On July 27th, at Yokohama, the wife of  
ROBERT T. BELL, of a son.

On July 30th, at Tokyo, the wife of GEORGE  
E. L. GAUNTLEY, of a daughter.

At 14, Whampoa Road, Shanghai, on the  
3rd of August, the wife of A. W. DANFORTH,  
of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On July 20th, at Yokohama, WILLIAM  
GEORGE SMITH, of the Nobles' School, Tokyo,  
to EDITH GRIGG, of Darford, Kent, England.

DEATH.

At Yokohama, on July 29th, GEORGE  
SCHAEFER, 30 years of age, suddenly, of heart  
disease.

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1899.

## TELEGRAMS.

### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

DEBATE ON CHINA IN THE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LONDON, August 8th.

In a discursive debate on China in the House  
of Commons Mr. Brodick said, that Englishmen  
naturally viewed any reforms in China  
with favour, but the customs of centuries could  
not be changed quickly. The Government  
hoped for good results from the co-operation  
of Germany in keeping ports open to their trade.

The Government though appearing to proceed  
alone was often voicing the opinions of other  
Powers. Adverting to the Manchuria-Peking  
Railway Mr. Brodick said it would probably  
be found that other Powers shared the British  
view, that the predominance of a single power  
at Peking cannot be viewed without concern  
and that the condition of affairs in China must  
continue to be fraught with some peril to peace.

The Government's attitude however was one of  
patience and watchfulness.

RUSSIA CHINA AND JAPAN.

A note from M. de Giers warns China that an  
alliance with Japan will give great offence to  
Russia and that the consequences would be  
most serious.

[FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.]  
THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

TOKYO, July 29th.

The third report of the Japanese representa-  
tives at the Peace Conference at the Hague  
reached the Government last night, and a  
summary of it will shortly be published. It is  
stated that the Conference has only adopted a  
resolution to prohibit the use of dum-buller  
and another for the application of the Regula-  
tions of the Red Cross Society to naval battles.

AMERICAN TAX ON BRAZILIAN  
COFFEE.

TOKYO, July 29th.

It is reported that the Brazilian coffee which  
escaped the imposition of the War Tax Duty  
in America last year, will have imposed upon it  
a duty of 3 cents per pound. If this report  
is true, it will be likely to improve the export  
of Japanese tea to America.

CHINA AND FOREIGN POWERS.

TOKYO, July 29th.

According to a report from a reliable source,  
a secret Council of the Chinese Government  
was held on the morning of the 11th inst.,  
under the presidency of the Empress Dowager,  
and it was decided that in case of any foreign  
Powers, now leasing land in China, attempting  
to extend the area of the leased lands, such  
action should be resisted by the force of arms.  
Instructions to this effect have been issued to all  
the "Tartar" Generals, the Viceroy and  
Governor-Generals of various provinces  
throughout the Chinese Empire.

THE CIVIL CODE AND THE  
EMPHYTEUSIS PROVISIONS.

TOKYO, July 29th.

Messrs. Hirose and Matsuno, as a deputa-  
tion from the farmers holding land in the  
province of Tosa under an emphyteusis arrange-  
ment, who will be deprived of their land by  
the provisions of the Civil Code, filed a petition to  
the Cabinet yesterday signed by over 4,200  
tenant farmers.

THE FIREARMS AND GUNPOWDER  
REGULATIONS.

TOKYO, July 29th.

A special meeting of the Privy Council was  
held to-day to consider the Regulations relating  
to the control of firearms and gunpowder. The  
Ministers for War and Navy, Major-General  
Nakamura, Vice-Minister for War, and Colonel  
Saito attended the meeting and explained the  
Regulations. His Majesty the Emperor is said  
to have been present.

THE PILOTS' LAW.

TOKYO, July 29th.

An Imperial Ordinance, No. 356, decreeing  
that the Pilots' Law shall be put into operation  
on the 4th August, 1899, has been issued.

Regulations regarding the operation of the  
Pilots' Law have been issued by the Minister  
for Communications.

POLITICAL MEETING DISPERSED  
BY POLICE.

AGORA, July 30th.

A political meeting held here by the Pro-  
gressives was dispersed by the police, and six  
members of the party have been placed under  
the ban of the Law of Admonition.

THE CROWN PRINCE AT NIKKO.

TOKYO, July 30th.

Upon his arrival at Nikko, on the 28th  
inst., his Imperial Highness the Crown Prince  
summoned the Governor of Tochigi and informed  
him of his intention to present Yen-1,000  
towards the educational, sanitary and engineer-  
ing funds of the town of Nikko.

EXPECTED RISING IN FORMOSA.

TAIPEI, July 30th.

A rebel leader named Lin King, with some  
eighty followers, is reported to be making  
preparations for a raid on Tainchiao, by way  
of Kaohsiung, Lin Li-shing, who recently lost in  
insurrection. The troops garrisoning Kaohsiung

and Chiochi and a police detachment proceed-  
ed to Tainchiao yesterday.

## THE YOKOHAMA MURDER.

TOKYO, July 31st.

The time given for an appeal against the  
decision of the preliminary examination judge  
in the case of Miller, accused of the triple  
murder in Yokohama, having expired on the  
29th inst., the case has been set down for hear-  
ing on the 5th proximo.

ITALIAN WAR-SHIPS.

TOKYO, July 31st.

It is reported that the Italian cruiser *Piemonte*  
left Shanghai for home on the 28th inst.,  
and the cruiser *Carlotto Colombo* is shortly  
to take her place in Chinese waters.

PRINCE HENRY.

TOKYO, July 31st.

A telegram has reached the Government  
stating that the German ship *Deutschland*  
with Prince Henry on board, arrived at Cansun  
on the 26th inst.

## THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

TOKYO, August 1st.

According to further news of the Peace Con-  
ference, it has been decided that all the con-  
ventions agreed upon shall be signed in  
December next. The summary of the results  
and proceedings of the Conference, is now being  
laid before His Majesty the Emperor, and it is  
expected that they will be made public shortly.

It appears that the obligation of the re-  
presentatives of the Powers to observe reticence  
regarding the proceedings and results of the  
Conference will continue until the conventions  
have been signed. Under these circumstances,  
only those parts which are not prejudicial to  
such agreement will be made public. It is  
unknown what conventions have been agreed  
upon or how long the representatives of the  
Powers will remain at The Hague.

TREATY WITH GREECE.

TOKYO, August 1st.

The Treaty of Commerce lately signed  
between Japan and Greece is now being con-  
sidered by the Legislative Bureau. It will be  
promulgated after being approved by the Privy  
Council.

PRIVY COUNCIL.

TOKYO, August 1st.

At yesterday's meeting of the Privy Council,  
His Majesty the Emperor was present from  
10.35 a.m. to 12.25 p.m., and again from 2.35 to  
4.05 in the afternoon.

JAPANESE RELIGIOUS LIBERALITY.

TOKYO, August 1st.

It has been decided that the Christian  
churches in the city and rural districts of Tokyo  
shall, counting from the 27th ult., be exempted  
from imposition of the House-tax—the same as  
Buddhist temples, in accordance with the  
Home Department Order No. 41.

PURCHASE OF AN IRON MINE.

TOKYO, August 1st.

The Akatani Iron Mine in Niigata prefecture,  
owned by the Mitsui Bishi Company, has been  
purchased by the Government Iron Foundry  
for ¥200,000, of which ¥30,000 was paid down,  
and the balance will be paid next fiscal year.

SNOW ON MOUNT FUJI.

TOKYO, August 1st.

An official of the Central Meteorological  
Observatory states that the temperature on the  
summit of Mount Fuji since the beginning of  
July has been abnormally low. The reports of  
a commission sent by the Observatory to Fuji  
on the 24th July, state that even at midday the  
temperature has not risen above 5 deg. or 3 deg.  
Cent. From the 25th to the 28th snow fell in  
intervals, and that which commenced to fall at  
4 p.m. on the 28th reached as low as the  
*Shogun*, the summit being entirely covered.  
Such a sight has not been seen for many years.  
The snow which fell last winter in the hollow  
at the top is not yet entirely melted, the  
quantity being larger than was ever known be-  
fore. Icicles 4 or 5 feet long are to be seen on  
the sides of the crater at the summit.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says—

On the 10th at 11.55 a.m. The barometer has  
fallen on the China coast, particularly in the  
North; risen in Tongking. A shallow depres-  
sion, which may have advanced from the Loo-  
choos, lies over the E. coast of China. Gradients  
slight for S. winds in S. China. FORECAST—  
Light to moderate S.W. winds; showery.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

DIRECT telegraphic communication with Foo-  
chow, which was interrupted by the recent  
heavy weather, is restored.

STEAM was raised yesterday on the captured  
cruiser *Isla de Cuba*, now being refitted at the  
Humphreys Docks under the superintendence of  
Lieutenant Hobson, U.S.N.

The Northern Pacific Steamship Company  
inform us, but too late to allow of their time-  
table being altered, that the s.s. *Glenogle* will  
sail to-morrow, the 11th instant.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial  
and Nethercole Hospitals begs to acknowledge  
with thanks the following donations to the  
funds of the Hospitals:—

C. Ewins ..... \$50

Chew Dart Tong ..... 25

ORDERS have been received by the commander  
of the Spanish transport *General Alava* to  
proceed to the Caroline and Marianas and  
Palao Islands, in order to take on board the  
Spanish officials and troops at those points,  
and proceed to evacuate the islands. A German  
warship is expected to meet the *Alava*, and  
the respective officials will arrange for the  
transfer of sovereignty—*Manila Times*.

THE PLAGUE.

Cases reported to date in 1899—

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## THE KOWLOON CUSTOMS REPORT.

The following is the Kowloon Customs re-  
port for 1898—

LOCAL.

The year opened with an outbreak of hu-  
man plague in Hongkong. The first case was  
reported on the 1st of July, and the disease pre-  
vailed until the beginning of July. The num-  
ber of cases reported in the colony was 1,449  
Chinese, of which 1,111 died, and 75 non-  
Chinese, of which 49 were fatal. In the district  
of Chinese Kowloon the plague made its ap-  
pearance on 1st March, and there were 385  
deaths reported. The most noteworthy event  
of the year was the agreement, signed on the  
19th June, by which China leased to Great  
Britain, for a period of 99 years, the waters of  
Deep and Ming Bays, the territory lying be-  
tween them and a number of the islands adjacent  
to Hongkong, reserving to itself the city of  
Kowloon only. This expansion of the colonial  
territory was received with much satisfaction by  
the colonists of Hongkong, many of whom ap-  
peared to derive particular gratification from  
the prospect of seeing the Stations of the  
Chinese Customs moved further from the colony.

The Honorable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, who  
was specially deputed for the purpose, proceed-  
ed on a tour of the newly leased territory in  
August, and made his report to the British  
Government, but up to the close of the year no  
steps had been taken for effective occupation.

The year 1899 will, however, most assuredly in-  
augurate a new order of things, and it will be  
appropriate while reviewing the trade of 1898,  
probably the last complete year of the old order,  
to compare it with the opening year of the ad-  
ministration of the Kowloon Customs under the  
Foreign Inspectorate, which began in April  
1887. This comparison, it may be hoped, will  
remove any impression which might exist that  
the introduction of the Customs to the new ter-  
ritory is a matter of minor importance, and  
detrimental to the trade of the Colony. It  
will be best to take as a basis of comparison  
the figures of 1889, when the work under the  
new conditions was fairly established. The  
total volume of trade for that year was valued,  
in round numbers, at Hk. Tls. 32,500,000; that  
of 1898, though not the best on record, reached  
the value of Hk. Tls. 45,700,000. This was  
divided as follows:—

	1889.	1898.
Foreign goods imported	12,895,000	17,139,000
Native goods imported	3,712,000	3,517,000
Native goods imported from China	1,415,000	2,533,000
Native produce exported to Hongkong	14,195,000	22,512,000
Junks inward and out-ward	46,995	60,429
Revenue: On general cargo	326,266	351,902
Revenue: On Opium	269,817	475,250
Total Revenue	596,083	827,152

The above figures demonstrate sufficiently that  
the trade has prospered during the 10 years,  
and a reference to the Special Tables of the  
Returns will show that, in respect of Exports,  
the progress has been almost unbroken. It  
is noteworthy that while in 1889 the Opium  
Revenue was nearly one-half of the total col-  
lection, it was in 1898 little more than one-  
tenth, but the Revenue on general cargo was  
considerably greater in 1898 than in 1889. It  
will also be found on comparing the develop-  
ment of the steam trade between Hongkong  
and Canton with the junk trade of Kowloon  
during the past 10 years, that the latter has  
progressed in considerably greater pro-  
portion. The Kowloon junk trade has  
undoubtedly fallen away slightly during the  
year under review but there is little doubt  
that this decline in due, in a great measure,  
to the opening of the West River to steam traf-  
fic. This may be but a temporary check, for,  
to judge from the comparison with Canton steam-  
borne trade, the junk traffic may be able to hold  
its own, and room be found for both, as trade  
develops, on the West as well as on the Pearl  
River. It is early to pronounce an opinion as  
to the influence on the junk trade of the new  
inland water steam navigation facilities initiated  
in June. Towage of junks appears to be the  
favorite method of applying the steam power,  
and this should stimulate rather than injure the  
junk trade. As the regulations at present  
stand, these facilities do not extend to places  
outside of Chinese water, and consequently do  
not immediately affect Hongkong.

There have been several cases of piracy in  
this district during the year; and an incipient  
rising of the Triad Society, in the country  
bordering on the newly leased territory, was  
nipped on the 2nd by a military expedition from  
Canton in October. The war between the  
United States and Spain, declared on the 23rd  
April, does not appear to have influenced the  
Kowloon trade.

REVENUE.

The net decline in the Revenue is Hk. Tls.  
12,700. The loss is shown under all heads,  
with the exception of export *ching-fai*, which  
was increased to the extent of Hk. Tls. 1,740 by  
the transfer to the Kowloon Customs of the col-  
lectorate on several additional articles formerly  
farmed to Chinese. The heaviest loss is  
shown in import *ching-fai*, and is due to the  
transfer of the kerosene trade to Foreign bot-  
toms, in order to escape the *tsu-hi* tax and to  
enjoy the advantages of transit passes.



## THE LEFT FATALITY.

The adjourned enquiry into the fatality which occurred last Sunday at Queen's Buildings, by which a Chinaman, employed as elevator attendant, met his death, took place this afternoon at the Magistrate's office, before Mr. Gompertz.

Dr. Thompson said he had examined the body of the deceased on the 7th inst. at the Public Mortuary and found a long straight bruise on the left side of the chest and the fourth and fifth ribs on the same side were broken. Further examination revealed the characteristic plaques of the internal organs also showed symptoms of plague. Death resulted from a shock but as the man had been suffering from plague, a notification had been sent to the Sanitary Board. The deceased must have been suffering from the plague before the accident, but the direct cause of death was doubtless the accident.

William Evans, overseer of the Queen's Buildings, gave evidence of having found the deceased stuck fast in the lift, and having assisted in his release. The man was quite dead when he saw him. The deceased was employed as lift boy and was in charge of it. The orders are that the door must be shut before the lift is started. Each boy has orders, printed in Chinese, issued to him.

Mr. Wickham, manager of the Electric Co., said the lift is controlled by a hand rope passing through it, to stop the lift either ascending or descending the rope has to be grasped. There is a self-acting arrangement that stops the lift either at the top or bottom. The exact stopping place depends on the number of persons in the lift, they are so adjusted that the smallest load in them would be with the attendant. This lift has been tested since the accident and with no one in it stops automatically within three or four inches of the floor. If the rope was pulled down sufficiently from the outside, the lift would commence to go up. Anything preventing the lift from working, (gammings) would automatically blow the fuses and to turn off the current. It is thought that the deceased, though suffering from plague, had died from the shock.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents.)

## PROTECTION OF WOMEN &amp; GIRLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH".

SIR,—If I might again encroach on your valuable space I should consider it a favour to be allowed to answer the disparaging remarks made by Thankful as regards my common sense.

First allow me to compliment him on his choice of "non de plume". He is thankful and like many others, is thankful before they have taken the trouble to see that they have really got. His remark "a step in the right direction" is incorrect in one slight particular: it is not a step, but miles beyond what is actually required, and so far instead of acting as a deterrent to vice, will engender it and instead of regulating, as it is intended to do, it will make secret houses, the same as in England; a state of affairs not at all desirable.

If your correspondent will look again at the text of the bill, as given in your Monday's issue, and carefully read clause 4, I think he will have sufficient answer to his objections as regards "cranks" but if still not satisfied, let him look at the object and reasons for the bill, and see what they are for clause 4. He will then, I feel certain, come to the same opinion as I have, that any person, civilian or in the police force, lodging a complaint, would have no difficulty in proving the house was a brothel, and the Magistrate, whose power by this ill-constructed bill are great but badly defined, would be almost compelled to have the house shut up.

It was especially claimed, at the Legislative Council Meeting, so I have been informed on reliable authority, for this bill that it was better than the Singapore Ordinance, inasmuch, that it was not intended to close all the houses, but only those that were carried on in a disorderly way or were located in undesirable localities. Perhaps your correspondent can point out to me where any provision is made to ensure this? I have studied the bill closely but have not yet seen any definition of the word "disorderly" nor have I seen any locality mentioned as being desirable. I could only see that if one house was closed by this Ordinance, then the same arguments would apply to close all the houses.

I am much afraid, Sir, that your correspondent has been carried away by his sentiments so that his senses of truth and justice have been perverted. I do not stand as a protector "of this disgusting trade", but I have given the subject enough thought to know that such stringent, ill-considered measures, have done and will do more harm than good. I am much obliged to him for the suggestion, with which he closes his somewhat fantastic letter, and he will exercise some of his superior common sense when he will see that I have acted on it, in the very letter which has so enraged him. In it I pointed out some serious defects of the bill as it stood, and also offered a remedy and placed the whole before the public. I suppose the Justices of the Peace are members of the British public.

With the usual apologies,

I am, etc.

Hongkong, August 10th, 1899.

## CIVITAS.

## WATER RETURN.

Level and storage of water in Reservoirs on the 1st August.

	1898.	1899.
Tytam.....	114 ft. 1 in. below overflow	10 ft. 1 in. above overflow
Pokfulam.....	11 ft. 1 in. below overflow	2 ft. 8 in. below overflow
Wong Nei Cheong.....	9 ft. 2 in. below overflow	10 ft. 2 in. below overflow

## STORAGE GALLONS.

Tytam.....	270,130,000	385,520,000
Pokfulam.....	60,000,000	60,160,000
Wong Nei Cheong (approx.).....	18,000,000	18,000,000
Imation only.....	18,000,000	18,000,000

Total..... 356,130,000 481,680,000

Consumption of Water in the City of Victoria and Hill District during the month of July.

	1898.	1899.
Estimated.....	104,488,000	114,763,000
Actual.....	96,000,000	201,500,000

Consumption per head..... 171..... 183 gallons per day

Consumption of Water in Kowloon Peninsula during the month of July.

	1898.	1899.
Estimated.....	6,742,000	13,820,000
Actual.....	25,900,000	27,100,000

Consumption per head..... 83..... 93 gallons per day

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

R. D. O'Malley.

Water Authority.

## NORTHERN NOTES.

(From Shanghai Papers.)

## Chinese Ambassador to Paris.

His Excellency Yu Keng, Chinese Ambassador to Paris, accompanied by his family and suite, arrived at Shanghai on the 2nd inst. and was to leave in a few days for Paris to assume his official duties.

## Railway Appointments.

The N. C. D. News learns from reliable quarters that Chang Yen-miao, assistant Director-General of the Imperial Northern Railways, some two months ago appointed Sir John Wolfe Barry, K.C.B., as consulting engineer, and that a civil engineer, the latter's representative, is now on his way out.

## Collision on the Huangpu.

A collision occurred on the 1st inst. in the Upper Huangpu between two steam-launches. One of them, coming from Hoochow with thirteen Chinese on board, was cut almost in two and capsized, seven of those on board being saved and six drowned, among the latter being two prominent Shanghai silk-men.

## H. E. Sheng.

H. E. Sheng, Director-General of Southern Railways, who went to Soochow recently to see King Yi, the High Commissioner of the China Merchants' and the Telegraph Administrations, an extra annual contribution of Tls. 100,000 to the Empress Dowager's coffers, subsequently visited Changchou, his native city. After a couple of days' stay there H. E. returned to Soochow and left that city for Shanghai on the 2nd inst.

## An Official Degraded.

Hu Chia-chen, ex-Acting Provincial Treasurer at Nanking and substantive Salt Taoist of Kiangsu, who was denounced recently to the Empress Dowager and subsequently handed over to the Board of Civil Appointments for the determination of an adequate penalty, has, it is reported by wire from Peking, been recommended by the Board to be degraded three steps in rank and to be transferred to some post corresponding to the rank to which he will be reduced.

## A Birthday Tiffin.

The Shanghai Taoist, Mr. Tsang, gave a grand tiffin at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs in the Bubbling Well Road to celebrate the birthday of the Emperor of China. All the Consular Bots were present, the Commissioners of Customs, etc., and some other foreigners, and principal local Chinese officials. Mr. Valdez, the Senior Consul, proposed the Emperor's health, which was acknowledged by the Taoist, who proposed in return the health of the rulers of the countries represented at the banquet.

## The Emperor's Health.

The Universal Gazette states:—"A report having come to this point, through certain persons lately arrived from Peking, that His Majesty Kuang Hsi had suddenly had a relapse and that, despairing of his Majesty's life, an heir and successor to the Throne had been secretly chosen, we immediately telegraphed to our correspondent at the capital asking whether this report was true. We are extremely thankful that the report has been absolutely refuted by our correspondent, who further states that His Majesty is in better health than before, and we therefore gladly publish the above to allay anxiety."

## A Faction Fight.

At the latter end of last month Newchwang witnessed a faction fight between gangs of local and Tientsin coolies. Four foreigners learning of the threatened disturbance, out of sheer curiosity hastened to the scene. They had barely reached the spot when they were set upon by some members of the former gang. Two luckily made their escape and were able to bring assistance to their less fortunate companions, one of whom, a Customs official, was dangerously wounded over the head and body, the assailants having set upon him with spades. The other had his kneecap badly cut besides minor injuries.

## Chinese in the Japanese Navy.

It appears, according to a Tokio dispatch to the Shanghai native officials, that although the Japanese Government has no objection to aliens entering the Japanese Army to learn their profession, there are regulations prohibiting the same privilege to those who desire to enter the Navy for the purpose. The thirty youths from the Liangkiang and Hukung Viceroyalties, therefore, who were sent last year to Japan to learn their profession in the Japanese Navy have been notified by H. E. Li Sheng-i, the Chinese Minister, that they must either choose another profession or return home, as entrance into the Japanese Navy has been consistently refused in spite of prolonged negotiations.

## The Secret Mission.

The N. C. D. News is informed that, owing to the bursting of the secret mission bubble of the Empress Dowager to the Mikado of Japan, the questions of returning the ex-Pei-yang fleet to China, etc., have been laid on the shelf for the present. It is further stated that, besides the autograph letter of the Empress Dowager to the Mikado, there was also a letter from Prince Ching to the high Ministers of the Mikado's Cabinet, which the two secret envoys had in their possession, and that both of these were freely displayed by the two envoys, en route, to Japanese officials, in order to gain the respect of the latter and to show off their own importance.

## Conservatism Rampant.

It is reported from Tientsin that the Conservative party at Peking have been active again against Reform, and that now they have the cue from the Empress Dowager and her nephew Junk Lu that what is most needed, at the present juncture, is money, hundreds of memorials have been lately sent to the Palace suggesting the closing of all schools and colleges established by command of the Emperor in Peking and the provinces before the late rebellion, and the money thus saved to be used for the maintenance of these schools and colleges, and thus easily be diverted into the Empress Dowager's Exchequer. The bait has been taken and it is to be feared now that these last remnants of the Imperial Reformers' energy will have to go down before Conservative bigotry after all.

## Krupp Guns for Nanking.

A Nanking dispatch reports the arrival of the latest Krupp guns. These guns formed part of an order sent by the Pei-yang Administration to Krupp's works at Essen for a number of guns, of which are for the Northern and Light for the Nanjing Army.

Should the guns prove easily manipulated by Chinese artilleryists it is intended to give larger orders so that the Pei-yang and Nanyang armies may have each four batteries of eight guns to a battery, and the Maritime and Yangtze provinces two batteries each. The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, however, intends to have four batteries of these quick-firers, having already formed a very favourable opinion of them, after witnessing the performance of a sample quick-firer which was brought to Wuchang by one of Krupp's agents early last spring.

## Viceroy Liu.

The Sincere states that Viceroy Liu of Nanking has decided to retire into private life at once, and that, although the Empress Dowager may grant him sick leave, he is determined to go on applying for permission to retire from office until he finally gets it. From other sources the N. C. D. News further learns that the reason of this determination to retire was mainly due to the irritating and haughty conduct of the high Commissioner, Kang Yi, who while at Nanking simply turned the Viceroy established by Viceroy Liu upside down without deigning to consult with the latter whose guest he (Kang Yi) really was, except on the most trivial matters. When we know that Viceroy Liu has always been a proud man, brooking no rival, one can understand this outrage upon his feelings and his indignation against his uncouth but cunning visitor, and we therefore need not be surprised to learn that when Kang Yi at last left Nanking for Soochow, leaving a train of misery and chaos behind him, the Viceroy Liu was the only official who did not go to bid the former on his way to the jetty at Hsikiang.

## Defamation and Damages.

In the German Consular Court at Shanghai Dr. Knappé gave judgment in a case in which Dr. Scholvin sued Mr. F. A. W. Ellert for damages for defamation of character. It appeared from the pleadings that four or five years ago the plaintiff was engaged to superintend the manufacture of smokeless powder at the mills at Lungshu. He did turn out powder of good quality, but on account of the insufficiency of the plant, as he alleged, the quantity was insufficient. The powder was used in both large and small arms and found satisfactory. About a year ago, as the plaintiff complained, the defendant said to a third party in Shanghai that the expert who had been engaged for the purpose had failed to turn out proper powder, and that a Chinese had afterwards been engaged. This was the defamation complained of. In giving judgment the Court held that the defendant had been guilty of defamation, but as it was without malice, and having regard to the length of time which had elapsed since the words were spoken, the case would be met by the defendant being ordered to pay \$5 and costs. Moreover, Dr. Scholvin could rest satisfied that his reputation as a chemist had not suffered.

## Impoverished Peking.

The Universal Gazette states, that so urgent is the need of ready money at Peking just now, that the Tientsin Customs Taoist, Huang Kien-yuan, and the managers of the Kaiping colliery have been called upon to contribute at once something to the empty exchequer. Huang Taoist therefore offered to pay from Tls. 60,000 to 70,000 and the managers of the Kaiping mines Tls. 100,000. But it seems that the Board of Revenue considers even Tls. 70,000 too little and demands Tls. 100,000 from the Tientsin Taoistship. A paper of the above and taking into consideration how things are at Peking just now it would appear that the unlucky Huang Taoist is between the devil and the deep sea. If he does not pay up, there are others only too anxious to do it, in which case there will be an early vacancy in the Customs Taoistship of Tientsin which would be filled by the man whose patriotism urged him to go to the rescue of his suffering Government. This would clearly not pay Huang Taoist who only a short time ago paid Tls. 450,000 for his post, and we may therefore consider that the wishes of the Board of Revenue will be met shortly. Having fleeced Tientsin and Kaiping we need not be surprised to hear later on of some other officials of the Pei-yang being asked to pay something towards this emergency fund of the spacious Board of Revenue. What makes the go of all this is that all this money is not for Government disbursements but for the extension and beautifying of the Empress Dowager's mausoleum.

## THE JAPANESE POLICE AND THE "CHINA".

## STATEMENT BY THE POLICE AUTHORITIES.

With reference to the arrest of two Chinese by the Japanese police on the American steamer *China*, on a charge of gambling, we are requested by the Kobe Police authorities to state that the case was brought to the attention of the Japanese police by a man who had been seen before, and who demanded to be paid the washing bill, amounting to between two and three yen. As the man spoke English after a fashion, Mrs. Wilson repeated to him what she had told the amah, whereupon he burst into a volley of the vilest language that not unnaturally frightened Mrs. Wilson considerably. On Mrs. Wilson saying that she would appeal to her Consul, the man said he was not afraid of any adjective Consul, now that the Treaties were in operation. Hoping to find some protection against the man's violence, Mrs. Wilson went downstairs, but unfortunately, the proprietor and his wife were away, and not one of the eighteen Japanese present would lend her any assistance. Thoroughly frightened, she got into a jinrikisha and eventually found her way to the police station, where she explained the matter to the police inspector, and he sent a policeman back to the hotel with her. We learn that the police immediately proceeded to arrest the washerman, whose name is Usui Shuntaro, of No. 23 Kiamasagori, and besides being subjected to detention for three hours the man was strongly censured for his conduct, while Mrs. Wilson has been told that if she lays a charge against him it will be taken up. In this case the police deserve every credit for the promptitude with which they acted, and Mr. Usui now knows by experience that the Revised Treaties do not give him power to behave with violence towards a foreigner.

## THE EARTH TREMORS IN JAPAN.

At Arima on the 27th ult. a strong and 10 slight tremors were felt; on the 28th 6 strong and 51 slight tremors; on the 29th a strong and 19 slight tremors. The earth vibrations in Kobe yesterday were very slight, but they still continue. Dr. Omori, a Professor in the College of Science in the Tokyo Imperial University, will leave Tokyo to-morrow for Arima with all necessary instruments to investigate the origin of the shocks. Messrs. Imamura, Hirabayashi and Iishi, the three experts who have made investigations recently, agree in thinking that there is no fear of any serious disaster occurring. Dr. Omori is coming down in the hope of ascertaining precisely the origin of the sounds. It is stated that the foreign visitors to Arima are on the increase daily, and the Japanese are also gradually returning.—K. Chonide.

## MAIZURU PORT ADMIRALTY.

Great progress is reported to have been made on the work on the Port Admiralty at Maizuru. Two of the forts are already completed and one of them is now being mounted with guns. A 28 cm. and a 25 cm. and five quick-firing guns were landed recently, and the 25 cm. and two quick-firing guns are already mounted. The work having been so far advanced, the coaling wharf, which is the most important part of the port, has been completed, and the town has been built up in numbers, and there are now 20,000 men at work on about 500 acres.

## THE YOKOHAMA MURDER CASE.

The decision of the Yokohama Chibo Sainbansho in the case of Robert Miller, together with the reasons for that decision, is now published. The accused was committed for trial on the charge of premeditated murder. The reasons given for this decision, as translated by the *Yokohama Gazette*, occupy over a column. The account goes very minutely into the history of the parties concerned before the crime was committed, and also gives a vivid account of how the murder was committed. Motives of jealousy against Ward, and anger that the keeper of the saloon, Suze, would not agree to have the saloon registered in his name, are the chief reasons given by the Court for the crime. The following is the account of the murder:

About 9 o'clock on the 17th the accused, thinking the time had arrived, armed himself with a pocket-knife having a hammer-head which he had found on the counter, close by Ward, who was soundly asleep. With a razor which was also found in the place the accused struck Ward in the neck, when the weapon broke. He then took up the hammer and gave repeated blows in the neck, face and about the ears of the young man, inflicting nine ugly wounds, fracturing the skull, and killing him on the spot. He proceeded upstairs at once, and entering the room where Suzuki Aki was sleeping struck her in the head and about the left ear with the iron hammer, inflicting on her five severe wounds. He killed her instantly by crushing in her skull. The accused then found his way into the front room where the hostess was sound asleep. He struck her with the hammer on the head, face, breast, about the ears, and other parts of the body and inflicted numerous severe wounds. Especially in the face and on the left side of the face there were eleven gaping wounds presenting the spectacle of a bee-hive. He killed her outright by the fact of her skull being battered in. The whole scene presented the most sickening sight by the spattering about of fragments of flesh and bones and the drenching of gore.

## MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY AT YOKOHAMA.

An inquiry was opened in H.B.M.'s Consular Court at Yokohama on July 27th says the *Japan Herald*, before Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, for the purpose of investigating the circumstances attending the death of Harold Hepworth, an apprentice formerly belonging to the British sailing ship *Senator*, which occurred at sea on October 18th last. It seems that the matter was reported at Charlotte Harbour, Florida, but the Board of Trade desired further information, and the inquiry was therefore held. The evidence shows that Hepworth went aboard when the *Senator* was taking 2 knots an hour, and reached the tie of the royal yard when he slipped and fell on the deck. He died soon afterwards. Witnesses deposed that he had obtained the Chief Mate's permission to go aloft, but the point at issue was had the mate ordered him to climb higher up the mast? The mate denied this, and the inquiry was adjourned sine die.

## REPORTED LEASING OF OIL WELLS BY FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN.

The *Osaka Asahi* states that the Standard Oil Company has commenced buying petroleum wells in Japan, and seven have already been purchased. The Company, says our contemporary, has been making strong efforts since last year to buy the oil fields in Mikaga province, and negotiations are still in progress. There are at present over 200 wells leased in that prefecture, and when those applied for are included their number will reach some 400.

## AN ABUSIVE WASHERMAN.

An incident has been brought to our notice says the *Kobe Chronicle* of 1st inst., that shows the risk of unpleasantness that may be run by a lady who, unaccompanied, stays at a Japanese hotel. Mrs. Wilson, a lady from Shanghai, who with her little daughter has been in Japan for some weeks on a visit, put up at the Tansan Hotel (situated above the Sannomiyama station) for a few days, previous to leaving for Shanghai by the next steamer. On Saturday night last, at 10 o'clock, a bill from a washerman was brought up to her for payment. Mrs. Wilson, after examining the bill, pointed out she had been charged 5 yen instead of 33 yen per piece, as arranged through the proprietor, but said that anyway it was not the proper time of day to present a bill, as she was just about retiring for the night. The amah took the message to the washerman, who forthwith was permitted to come upstairs, where he knocked loudly at Mrs. Wilson's door and demanded admittance. Hastily putting on a Japanese kimono, Mrs. Wilson opened the door and was confronted by a man whom she had never seen before, and who demanded to be paid the washing bill, amounting to between two and three yen. As the man spoke English after a fashion, Mrs. Wilson repeated to him what she had told the amah, whereupon he burst into a volley of the vilest language that not unnaturally frightened Mrs. Wilson considerably. On Mrs. Wilson saying that she would appeal to her Consul, the man said he was not afraid of any adjective Consul, now that the Treaties were in operation. Hoping to find some protection against the man's violence, Mrs. Wilson went downstairs, but unfortunately, the proprietor and his wife were away, and not one of the eighteen Japanese present would lend her any assistance. Thoroughly frightened, she got into a jinrikisha and eventually found her way to the police station, where she explained the matter to the police inspector, and he sent a policeman back to the hotel with her. We learn that the police immediately proceeded to arrest the washerman, whose name is Usui Shuntaro, of No. 23 Kiamasagori, and besides being subjected to detention for three hours the man was strongly censured for his conduct, while Mrs. Wilson has been told that if she lays a charge against him it will be taken up. In this case the police deserve every credit for the promptitude with which they acted, and Mr. Usui now knows by experience that the Revised Treaties do not give him power to behave with violence towards a foreigner.

## REPORTED FIND OF A NEW RAPHAEL.

The discovery of a new Raphael is reported from Rome. In one of the galleries of the Vatican, of St. Peter's, at Rome, says a London dispatch, there is a picture representing "The Massacre of the Innocents," belonging to Dr. Dionigi di Payne. Some artists attracted by the beauty of the painting, formed a committee to examine it attentively. The surface of the canvas was treated and below the apparent wash found the signature "Raph. Urb. 1507." The picture would, therefore, belong to the beginning of the last decade of Raphael's life.

## MAIL CARRIERS IN FORMOSA.

The Formosan Government authorities have arranged to employ rebels, who have made their submission, as mail carriers, and a start was made on the 21st ult. at Unsin in Kagi. The Central Police summoned three leaders on the 16th ult. and told them of the arrangement, and as they agreed to undertake the work the contract was signed.

## SHIPPING REPORTS.

Captain Ferguson, of the steamship *Siam*, from Bangkok, reports:—Moderate following wind and sea, clear weather.

Captain Meyer, of the steamship *Sullberg*, from Newchwang, reports:—From the Saddle to Turnabout heavy easterly swell, fixed Barometer, and rainy weather.

Captain Farquhar, of the steamship *Bentley*, from Moji, reports:—Fine as a whole, except Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday's heavy S.E. swell, vessel rolling and straining heavily, and shipping water fore and aft.

Captain Frigas, of the steamship *Meefoo*, from Shanghai, reports:—From Shanghai to Tai-chai strong S.E. winds, heavy sea. Anchored at 2 p.m. on 6th at Tai-chai Anchorage for 15 hours. Steamers *Changsha* and *Wooning* in Anchorage. Tides to port moderate and light southerly winds and fine weather.

## NOTANDA.

## CALENDAR.

August.

Meteorological means based on fifteen years' observations to 1895.

Barometer.....	29.755
Thermometer.....	81.0
Humidity.....	83
Rainfall.....	13.482

## TO-DAY.

	On date at	On date at
Barometer.....	29.73	29.65
Temperature.....	81	83
Humidity.....	89	81
Rainfall.....	—	—

## TO-DAY.

Thursday, 10th August, 1899.

Chinese—5th of 7th moon of 25th year of Kwang-shi.

Sun—Rises.....	5hr. 36min.
Sets.....	6hr. 34min.
High water—Morning.....	10hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....	1hr. 30min.
Low water—Morning.....	5hr. 36min.
Afternoon.....	5hr. 18min.

## ANNIVERSARIES.

1519—Magellan left Lucar de Barrameda to discover a new route to India.

1841—Sir H. Pottinger and Admiral Parker arrived in China.

1877—Five ports on the Yangtze declared open.

1888—Typhoon at Foochow; great loss of life and property.

1894—Rev. Jas. Wylie murdered near Newchwang.

## TO-MORROW.

Friday, 11th August, 1899.

Chinese—6th of 7th moon of 25th year of Kwang-shi.

Sun—Rises.....	5hr. 36min.
Sets.....	6hr. 34min.
High water—Morning.....	11hr. 30min.
Afternoon.....	1hr. 30min.
Low water—Morning.....	5hr. 36min.
Afternoon.....	5hr. 18min.

## ANNIVERSARIES.

1749—Great eruption of Taal Volcano, Luzon, lasting 6 months and doing much damage.

1854—First public meeting of British merchants in Canton called by Lord Napier.

## SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

## MAILS DUE.

French (*Salacie*) 13th inst.

Indian (*Catherine Apear*) 14th inst.

Tacoma (*Olympia*) 17th inst.

Canadian (*Empress of India*) 20th inst.

American (*America Maru*) 23rd inst.

American (*City of Peking*) 2nd prox.

The steamer *Salacie*, with the next French mail, left Saigon at 4 a.m. to-day for this port.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Nankin* left Singapore for this port on the 8th inst. at 8 a.m.

The steamer *Sado Maru* (Europe Line) left Singapore for this port 10th and is expected to arrive here on the 15th inst.

The steamer *Tosa Maru* (European Line) left Kobe for this port yesterday and is expected to arrive here on the 14th inst.

The steamer *Idzumi Maru* (American Line) left Shimonsaki for this port 10th and is expected to arrive here on the 14th inst.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s R.M.S. *Empress of Japan* from Hongkong, arrived at Vancouver, yesterday, the 9th inst. at 7 a.m.

The steamer *Hiroshima Maru* (Bosnia Line) left Bombay, via ports, for this port yesterday and is expected to arrive here on the 28th inst.

The N. P. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Olympia* has arrived at Yokohama and will sail for Hongkong via Kobe and Shanghai to-morrow the 11th inst.

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